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THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SITUATION IN TAJIKISTAN

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THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SITUATION IN TAJIKISTAN

BACKGROUND

The conflict in Tajikistan has resulted in thousands of deaths and more than 800,000 refugees and displaced persons. It is a struggle influenced by economic, social, demographic, religious and ideological factors. In addition, the rapid pace of change associated with the disintegration of the Soviet Union disrupted political and economic structures, further aggravating these factors. Regions and groups that had traditionally been excluded from power began to expect fuller participation in the country's affairs. As a result, a struggle arose between different clans for a redistribution of power.

The inhabitants of Tajikistan form a traditional society, characterized by clan and ethnic divisions. Twenty-five per cent of the 5.5 million population of Tajikistan are Uzbeks. Uzbeks ethnically belong to the Turkic group of peoples, while Tajik culture and language are closely linked to those of the Persian-speaking peoples. The population of Uzbekistan itself includes more then 1 million Tajiks. In addition, another 10 per cent or more of Tajikistan's population consists of minorities, particularly Russians, Ukrainians and Germans, and smaller groups of Jews, Koreans, Tatars, Georgians, Armenians, Bashkirs and others.

Clans in Tajikistan are generally divided by region, except in the Kurgan-Tyube area, where the population is mixed and which has been the scene of the worst fighting.

Independence also made possible a revival of Islam in the country. Some members of the Islamic clergy are active in the armed opposition to the current Government, much of which is based in northern Afghanistan, where there are currently approximately 20,000 Tajik refugees.

The Republic of Tajikistan (formerly the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic) is situated in south-east Central Asia. To the north and west it borders Uzbekistan (formerly the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic), to the north-east Kyrgyzstan (formerly the Kyrgyz Soviet Socialist Republic), to the east the People's Republic of China and to the south Afghanistan.

The Tajik Supreme Soviet voted to proclaim Tajikistan an independent State on 9 September 1991. This vote followed the failed conservative *coup d'état* in Moscow in August of that year which marked the beginning of the disintegration of the Soviet Union. The Republic of Tajikistan became a Member of the United Nations on 2 March 1992.

In May 1992, the Tajik opposition — an informal coalition of Islamic and other groups — seized power de facto after two months of non-stop demonstration, plunging Tajikistan into civil war. After suffering defeat in December 1992, most of the opposition forces crossed over into the territory of Afghanistan. Although the civil war as such ended at the start of 1993, the continued armed insurgency of the opposition forces, in particular from across the Tajik-Afghan border, has continued to destabilize the country.

There are a number of ongoing international and regional diplomatic efforts to find a lasting peaceful solution to the conflict in Tajikistan. At the same time, with the agreement of the Tajik Government, Russian border forces have been deployed along the Tajik-Afghan border to repel cross-border infiltration of armed opposition groups. Inside Tajikistan, the Collective Peace-keeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) (including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan) have been deployed. In addition, the United Nations Security Council,

by its resolution 968 (1994), set up the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) to help in implementing a cease-fire agreement between the Government and the opposition forces, negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations.

EARLY UNITED NATIONS INVOLVEMENT

In response to a letter from the President of Uzbekistan, the United Nations Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, despatched a fact-finding mission, which visited Uzbekistan and Tajikistan from 13 to 23 September 1992 and made a first-hand assessment of the situation on the ground. On 29 October 1992, the Secretary-General informed the Security Council that he had decided to send a United Nations good-offices mission to Tajikistan and Central Asia. He took that decision in response to two communications from the Acting President of the Republic of Tajikistan, on 29 September and 15 October.

The Security Council, in a statement issued by its President on 30 October, expressed its grave concern about the continued deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan, and called on all parties to the conflict to end the fighting and to enter into political dialogue. The Council welcomed the efforts made by the member countries of the CIS and those undertaken by other States to help Tajikistan to resolve the crisis. It also welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to send a goodwill mission, including a humanitarian assistance mission, to Tajikistan and Central Asia as a contribution by the United Nations to resolving the conflict.

The mission visited Moscow, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan in November 1992 and held a series of discussions with Government officials in those countries.

In a letter dated 21 December 1992, the Secretary-General informed the Security Council of his intention to send to Tajikistan a small integrated United Nations unit of political, military and humanitarian officers. They would monitor the situation on the ground, provide liaison services and constitute a core for any future United Nations participation in the regional efforts in Tajikistan. The mission became operational on 21 January 1993. It provided the Secretary-General with up-to-date information on the situation in Tajikistan and was instrumental in coordinating the international community's response to the humanitarian situation in the country.

SPECIAL ENVOY APPOINTED

In April 1993, reports from the United Nations mission led the Secretary-General to conclude that there could be an escalation of the confrontation. This was especially true in the border areas between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Urgent action was required to establish a cease-fire and start a political dialogue among all concerned for the earliest possible solution of the problem.

In this context, the Secretary-General, in a letter to the President of the Security Council on 26 April 1993, informed the Council of his decision to appoint Ambassador Ismat Kittani as his Special Envoy for Tajikistan for an initial period of three months. His mandate would be: to obtain agreement on a cease-fire and make recommendations on appropriate international monitoring mechanisms; to ascertain the positions of all the concerned parties and make good offices available to assist in the establishment of a process of negotiations for a political solution; and to enlist the help of neighbouring countries and others concerned in achieving those objectives. The Secretary-General also recommended extending the mandate of the United Nations mission in Tajikistan for an additional three months. It could then continue its monitoring and humanitarian efforts as well as provide support to the Special Envoy. The Security Council, in a letter dated 29 April from its President, welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to appoint the Special Envoy and the proposal to extend the mandate of mission.

In the following months, the Special Envoy, in an effort to start the peace process, visited Tajikistan and held discussions with the President of that country and other Government officials. He also travelled to the

capitals of Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, for talks with their leaders. In Tajikistan and Iran, he met with leaders of various groups opposing the Tajik central Government and other prominent opposition personalities.

REGIONAL EFFORTS

In the meantime, the regional search for a peaceful solution of the Tajik conflict continued. In July 1993, on the initiative of President Rabbani of Afghanistan, agreement was reached at a summit meeting of the countries members of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in Istanbul, Turkey, to establish a commission, composed of representatives of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation, to find a peaceful solution to the problem on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation approved a decree on 28 July 1993 on the settlement of the situation at the Tajik-Afghan border. President Yeltsin also took the initiative of hosting a summit meeting of heads of State and Government from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan on the situation in Tajikistan, which took place on 7 August 1993. A representative of the President of Turkmenistan also attended the summit. At the meeting, the leaders, *inter alia*, emphasized that a political settlement in Tajikistan remained the main priority and called on the international community to support efforts in this regard. At the same time, the Tajik Government expressed its intention to develop a dialogue with opposition forces.

Efforts to find a peaceful solution were also actively supported by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) [now the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)].

SPECIAL ENVOY'S MANDATE EXTENDED

In a report submitted to the Security Council on 16 August 1993, the Secretary-General reported on the activities of the Special Envoy. He also outlined the views of the various parties concerned and described regional peace efforts. The Secretary-General continued to be deeply concerned at the situation in Tajikistan and stated that a concerted effort was urgently needed to persuade the Government and all major tendencies in the opposition to accept the need for a political solution and to participate in a negotiating process. In the circumstances, he proposed to extend the mandate of the Special Envoy for a further three months, *i.e.* until 31 October 1993. He also recommended extending the United Nations mission in Tajikistan for the same period.

The Secretary-General informed the Council that, given the escalating crisis on the Tajik-Afghan border, he had requested the Special Envoy to visit Afghanistan for discussions with government leaders regarding the Envoy's mandate in Tajikistan and to ascertain the views and positions of Tajik opposition leaders residing in Afghanistan.

On 23 August, the Security Council, in a presidential statement, stressed the urgent need for the cessation of all hostile actions on the Tajik-Afghan border. It reaffirmed the necessity to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tajikistan and all other countries of the region and the inviolability of their borders. The Council welcomed efforts by the countries of the region aimed at stabilizing the situation. It also welcomed the Secretary-General's proposals to extend the mandates of his Special Envoy and the United Nations mission.

In a letter dated 10 September 1993, the Secretary-General informed the Council about the consultations which his Special Envoy had had in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan from 17 to 26 August 1993. As a result of those discussions, the Special Envoy reported to the Secretary-General that a consensus seemed to be emerging on the need for a political settlement of the conflict in Tajikistan.

The Secretary-General himself had the opportunity to discuss the problem of Tajikistan with many heads of State and Foreign Ministers, including in particular President Rakhmonov of Tajikistan and President Karimov of Uzbekistan, who were attending the regular session of

the United Nations General Assembly. In addition, the Special Envoy held discussions with many leaders of countries members of the CIS as well as representatives of other countries on the most effective means of establishing a comprehensive national dialogue.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

These diplomatic efforts notwithstanding, the situation in Tajikistan, and especially on the Tajik-Afghan border, remained tense. Cross-border infiltration from Afghanistan by armed opposition groups occurred on a daily basis, as did fighting between those groups and Government and CIS border forces. In addition, armed confrontation was intensifying inside the country, particularly in the Khatlon and Gorno-Badakhshan regions.

The humanitarian situation in the country also continued to deteriorate. Instability and fighting had brought economic life to a halt in many districts of the Khatlon, Gorno-Badakhshan and Garm regions. The population was suffering from shortages of food, medical attention and shelter. Refugees and internally displaced persons returning to their places of origin were the most vulnerable group.

In an effort to stabilize the situation in Tajikistan, the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan decided, at a meeting held in Moscow on 24 September 1993, to establish the CIS Collective Peace-keeping Forces in Tajikistan.

A number of other countries in the region, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran, expressed their interest in playing a more active role in efforts to restore peace to Tajikistan.

On 14 November, the Secretary-General reported to the Security Council on the situation in Tajikistan. He noted that the developments in that country and the neighbouring region had given rise both to hope for a political solution of the conflict and to serious concern at the risk of further deterioration of the situation. He again emphasized that concerted efforts were needed to persuade the Government of Tajikistan and all major opposition groups to start a serious process of negotiation without further delay. The Secretary-General said that he would be ready to respond positively to any reasonable request by the parties and to recommend to the Council an appropriate international monitoring mechanism to help to implement possible future agreements concluded by them.

The Secretary-General informed the Council that he had decided to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy for Tajikistan for a further five months, until 31 March 1994. He also proposed that a small team of United Nations officials in Tajikistan should continue to perform their functions until a United Nations integrated office was established in Dushanbe. The establishment of such an office was requested by the Government of Tajikistan to provide advice and assistance in developing the economic and social infrastructure of the country, as well as to coordinate the humanitarian efforts of the international community. The Government also sought United Nations advisory services in the field of human rights and democratic institutions.

In a letter dated 23 November from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General, the Council expressed concern at the situation in Tajikistan and welcomed the Secretary-General's decision to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy until 31 March 1994. It also agreed that the small group of United Nations officials in Tajikistan continue to perform their functions until a decision was taken on the proposal to establish an integrated office.

AGREEMENT ON PEACE TALKS REACHED

On 16 December 1993, the Secretary-General informed the Security Council of his decision to assign Ambassador Ismat Kittani to other functions in the United Nations Secretariat and to appoint Ambassador Ramiro Piriz-Ballón, Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations, as Special Envoy. The Security Council, in a letter dated 22 December from its President, welcomed that decision.

In discharge of his mandate, in January and February 1994, the new Special Envoy undertook two trips

to Tajikistan for discussions with Government officials and the leaders of the opposition. He also had talks in the capitals of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan. The issue of the establishment of a serious negotiation process between the Tajik parties, its venue, participants and format was discussed extensively with all parties concerned.

The efforts of the Special Envoy were actively supported by the Russian Federation and other countries in the region. In order to facilitate the resolution of the differences between the Tajik Government and the opposition on the issue of the venue and the presence of observers at the talks, the Government of the Russian Federation agreed with the opposition's request to have unofficial consultations with them before the start of the political dialogue between the Tajik parties. In March 1994, the Russian Federation obtained the agreement of Tajik opposition leaders to have Moscow as the venue for the talks. After the Moscow round, the venue would then rotate to Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran; and then to Islamabad, Pakistan. It was also agreed that Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan would be observers at the talks.

The President of Tajikistan accepted the format of negotiations in a letter of 23 March 1994 to the Special Envoy. He also stated that his Government was prepared to start negotiations with the opposition in Moscow as soon as possible.

In a report dated 4 April 1994, the Secretary-General informed the Security Council of the agreement of the Tajik parties to begin a political dialogue on national reconciliation, and of his decision to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy for another three months until the end of June 1994. He had enlarged the mandate of the Special Envoy to enable him to provide good offices during the political negotiations. The Secretary-General also recommended extending the mandate of the United Nations mission in Tajikistan.

On 22 April, in a letter from its President, the Security Council welcomed the efforts of the Special Envoy, and those of the Russian Federation and of neighbouring States, in securing the agreement of the parties to begin a political dialogue on national reconciliation. The Council also welcomed the Secretary-General's proposals with regard to the mandates of the Special Envoy and the United Nations mission.

MOSCOW ROUND OF TALKS

The first round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, under United Nations auspices, took place in Moscow from 5 to 19 April 1994 with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan. At the request of the parties concerned, the talks were chaired by the Secretary-General's Special Envoy.

During these talks, the two parties were able to work out a comprehensive agenda for the duration of inter-Tajik negotiations. The agenda included three clusters of issues: (a) measures aimed at a political settlement in Tajikistan; (b) solution of the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons; and (c) fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan.

The parties agreed that in future they would consider all three clusters of issues as a single package and would negotiate compromise solutions based on that approach. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation and included this principle in their joint communiqué. They also signed a number of other documents, including a joint statement which contained an appeal "to refrain from any act that could complicate the process of ... negotiations", and a protocol on the establishment of a joint commission on problems relating to refugees and displaced persons from Tajikistan.

The Secretary-General reported to the Security Council on the first round of talks on 5 May 1994. He stated that the talks had been encouraging and had met his expectations. He noted that it would be important to capitalize on the momentum achieved in Moscow and to make the political dialogue irreversible. On 19 May,

the Council, in a letter from its President, supported the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, and expressed hope that the second round of talks would consolidate the gains made in Moscow.

TEHRAN ROUND OF TALKS

The second round of inter-Tajik talks took place in Tehran from 18 to 28 June 1994 with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the CSCE.

During 10 days of intensive discussions, the Tajik parties focused on one main objective: agreement on a cease-fire and the cessation of other hostile acts. Despite the fact that the talks were inconclusive and did not produce an agreement, the parties agreed on a comprehensive definition of "the cease-fire and the cessation of other hostile acts" and on a joint communiqué in which they again reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means to achieve national reconciliation.

In July, however, the peace process suffered a serious setback when the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan endorsed a political plan providing for a referendum on a new constitution, to be held in September 1994, and simultaneous elections for the post of President. The implementation of that plan, which did not provide for the participation of the opposition and ignored the agreed agenda of the inter-Tajik talks, threatened to jeopardize the negotiations. The issue of the inter-Tajik talks was not even raised during that session of the Supreme Soviet.

For its part, the opposition continued its armed struggle through border infiltrations and acts of terrorism and sabotage inside the country. It even intensified that course of action citing the continuing lack of "seriousness and sincerity" on the Government side in the negotiations.

The Secretary-General reported to the Security Council on 28 July that in the circumstances, he had decided to suspend preparations for the third round of talks in Islamabad until the Tajik parties took new and substantive steps that would give unequivocal proof of their sincerity and their commitment to pursue the negotiations. In the meantime, the Secretary-General requested his Special Envoy to maintain the necessary contacts with the Tajik parties and the Governments in the region.

AGREEMENT ON TEMPORARY CEASE-FIRE

In the following weeks, the Tajik Government adopted a number of measures, including an amnesty decree, the release of some opposition members, upgrading the level of its delegation at the negotiations and the postponement of the presidential election and referendum.

Taking into account these positive developments, the Secretary-General instructed his Special Envoy to undertake consultations with the Tajik parties and certain Governments in the region with a view to arranging the next round of inter-Tajik talks. As a result of those meetings, the two sides agreed to holding high-level consultations to discuss the prospects for a third round of talks in Islamabad.

The consultations were held in Tehran from 12 to 17 September 1994. The delegation of the Tajik Government was led by Mr. A. Dostiev, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan; the delegation of the Tajik opposition was led by Mr. A. Turajonzodah, First Deputy Chairman of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan. Talks were also held with Mr. A. Nuri, leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan. The Special Envoy served as mediator. High-ranking representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and the Russian Federation facilitated the consultations.

The consultations resulted in the signing of an Agreement on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks (also known as the Tehran Agreement). The two sides also agreed that within one month the Tajik Government would release those opposition members who had been arrested and sentenced, in conformity with the list provided by the

opposition. The opposition would release their prisoners of war in conformity with the list annexed to the Agreement.

In order to ensure effective implementation of the Tehran Agreement, the parties agreed to establish a Joint Commission consisting of representatives of the Government and of the opposition. They requested the Security Council to assist the work of the Commission by providing political good offices and dispatching United Nations military observers to the conflict areas. It was agreed that the Tehran Agreement would enter into force as soon as United Nations observers were deployed in Tajikistan.

During the high-level consultations, the parties also reaffirmed their commitment to resolve the conflict through political dialogue and agreed in a joint communiqué to hold the next round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad in October 1994.

On 22 September, the Security Council, in a statement by its President, welcomed the Tehran Agreement and invited the Secretary-General to present urgently his recommendations regarding the request of the Tajik parties for United Nations support for the Agreement.

In his report submitted to the Security Council on 27 September 1994, the Secretary-General recommended that the mandates of his Special Envoy and of the small group of United Nations officials in Tajikistan should be extended for a further period of four months and that, as a provisional measure, the group of officials be strengthened with up to 15 military observers drawn from existing peace-keeping operations, pending a decision by the Security Council to establish a new United Nations observer mission in Tajikistan. He also informed the Council of his decision to send a technical survey mission to Tajikistan to assess the modalities for establishing a future observer mission. In a letter dated 29 September 1994, the President of the Security Council informed the Secretary-General that the members of the Council had taken note of the observations and recommendations in the 27 September report.

A team from the United Nations Secretariat visited Tajikistan from 4 to 12 October 1994 to look into all aspects of a possible United Nations observer mission to assist in the implementation of the Tehran Agreement. The team also considered the functions of the military observers who would be temporarily deployed to strengthen the United Nations office in Dushanbe.

The 15 military observers arrived in Tajikistan during October and were deployed in Dushanbe, Garm, Kurgan-Tyube and Pyanj. The cease-fire came into effect as from 0800 hours local time on 20 October 1994, following a public announcement by the head of the United Nations office in Dushanbe, Mr. Liviu Bota.

ISLAMABAD ROUND OF TALKS

The third round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation took place in Islamabad from 20 October to 1 November 1994 with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, CSCE and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). The talks were chaired by the Secretary-General's Special Envoy.

The main issue negotiated in Islamabad was the extension of the Tehran Agreement. After 10 days of difficult discussions, the parties succeeded in extending the Agreement for another three months until 6 February 1995. That decision was reflected in the joint communiqué signed by the parties on 1 November 1994. The two sides also signed the Protocol on the Joint Commission to monitor the implementation of the Tehran Agreement. The Protocol defined the role the parties wished the United Nations to assume in assisting the work of the Joint Commission.

During the third round, both Tajik parties reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation and included this principle in the joint communiqué. In accordance with their previous agreement to rotate the venue of the talks, the parties agreed to hold the next round of talks in early December 1994 in Moscow. The two sides indicated their intention to discuss, on a priority basis, such issues as arrangements for free and democratic elections to the

Tajik parliament and provincial and district legislative bodies, scheduled for late February 1995; confidence-building measures, including lifting the ban on political parties and movements in the context of national reconciliation, as well as the constructive engagement of the mass media in Tajikistan and beyond, with the aim of facilitating the restoration of peace and normalcy in the country.

On 8 November, the Security Council, in a presidential statement, welcomed the extension the Tehran Agreement, as well as signing of the Protocol of the Joint Commission for the implementation of that Agreement. It also welcomed the reaffirmed commitment by the parties to resolve the conflict only through political means.

PEACE-KEEPING MISSION ESTABLISHED

The Joint Commission established under the Tehran Agreement of 17 September 1994, consists of representatives of the Government and of the opposition. It constitutes the formal machinery for implementing the Agreement. Both Tajik parties as well as interested Governments have emphasized the importance of active United Nations involvement at all levels in order to ensure the effective functioning of the Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission held its first meeting on 14 November 1994 at Dushanbe. It began to perform its functions assisted by the United Nations military observers already in the country.

On 30 November, the Secretary-General submitted to the Security Council a report in which he described the developments relating to Tajikistan and made recommendations with regard to a possible United Nations peace-keeping operation in that country.

Concept of operations. The Secretary-General noted that a United Nations mission in Tajikistan would act at the request of the Joint Commission or on its own initiative. In case of a complaint about a cease-fire violation, it would investigate in order to establish the facts. It would report its findings to the Joint Commission and to United Nations Headquarters. In addition, the United Nations would provide its good offices as stipulated in the Tehran Agreement.

The Mission would be an integrated civilian-military operation. It should be headed by a person with political experience, supported by a small civil-affairs staff as well as military observers. The personnel would be deployed in teams at a number of offices in the country. Each office would serve as a base from which the teams would cover a geographic area of responsibility.

The United Nations mission in Tajikistan would be under the exclusive direction of the Secretary-General. The parties would be required to respect the international status of the United Nations mission and its personnel and to cooperate fully with it in the implementation of its mandate.

Strength. The Secretary-General stated that under the concept of operations the United Nations mission in Tajikistan need not be large in order to perform its functions. A military complement of 40 officers would suffice to strengthen the headquarters in Dushanbe and the offices in Kurgan-Tyube, Pyanj and Garm, and to open additional offices, for example in Tavildara and Khorog.

The Chief of Mission would need to be supported in his headquarters by a small civilian staff of four professionals; it would also be desirable to have an additional three to four civil-affairs officers for work away from headquarters. Depending on the level of activities, they could be permanently stationed in some of the field offices. The international support staff would need to be strengthened to deal with the increased requirements. Similarly, a number of staff, including interpreters, would need to be recruited locally.

Relations with other forces. The Secretary-General pointed out that the United Nations mission would be quite distinct from the joint Russian-Kazakh-Kyrgyz border forces and the CIS Collective Peace-keeping Forces in Tajikistan. It would, however, maintain close liaison with them and rely on their cooperation as appropriate.

The Russian, Kazakh and Kyrgyz border forces in Tajikistan are deployed along the Pyanj river, which forms the border with Afghanistan. Those border forces are commanded by a Russian Lieutenant-General who reports to the commander of the Russian border forces with headquarters in Moscow.

The CIS Collective Peace-keeping Forces in Tajikistan, composed of Russian and a small number of Uzbek troops have the following mandate:

(a) To assist in the normalization of the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border with a view to stabilizing the overall situation in Tajikistan and creating conditions conducive to progress in the dialogue between all interested parties on ways of achieving a political settlement of the conflict;

(b) To assist in the delivery, protection and distribution of emergency and other humanitarian aid, create conditions for the safe return of refugees to their places of permanent residence and guard the infrastructure and other vitally important facilities required for the foregoing purpose.

Estimated cost. The Secretary-General estimated that, for the period from 1 December 1994 to 6 February 1995, the cost of the United Nations observer mission would be approximately $1,895,800 gross. The monthly cost thereafter would be approximately $442,300. This estimate provided for 40 military observers, 18 international and 26 local civilian staff.

In concluding his report, the Secretary-General observed that the extension of the Tehran Agreement for another three months was a positive step towards national reconciliation and the restoration of peace in Tajikistan. In this connection, he had instructed the Special Envoy to explore with the two Tajik sides and the observers at inter-Tajik talks ways of achieving further progress during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks. He attached particular importance to the elections to the Tajik national parliament and local legislative bodies, which were scheduled to be held before the end of February 1995.

Commenting on the situation in Tajikistan and on its border with Afghanistan, the Secretary-General noted that they had remained tense. In addition, the deepening economic crisis was having a negative impact on the attempts to achieve political stability in the country. This was true especially in the southern districts, which were directly affected by the civil war. In these circumstances, the Secretary-General believed that the United Nations should respond positively to the request of the Tajik parties to assist them in the implementation of the cease-fire. He recommended that the Security Council establish a small observer mission of the kind outlined in his report to perform that task.

On 16 December, the Security Council, by its resolution 968 (1994), welcomed the agreement on the extension of the Tehran Agreement. It decided to set up a United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) in accordance with the plan outlined in the Secretary-General's report of 30 November. UNMOT was established for a period of up to six months subject to the proviso that it would continue beyond 6 February 1995 only if the Secretary-General reported to the Council that the Tajik parties had agreed to extend the Tehran Agreement, and that they remained committed to an effective cease-fire, national reconciliation and the promotion of democracy.

The Council called upon the parties to redouble their efforts to achieve as soon as possible a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict. It requested the Secretary-General to continue to pursue, through the good offices of his Special Envoy, efforts to speed up the progress towards national reconciliation in Tajikistan.

ACTIVITIES OF UNMOT

Maintenance of the cease-fire. At the time of the adoption of resolution 968 (1994), the situation in Tajikistan was relatively quiet. However, since the end of December there have been a number of reports by the Russian border forces about attempts by armed members of the opposition to infiltrate Tajikistan from

Afghanistan across the Pyanj River. For their part, the opposition reported shelling of Afghan villages by the Russian border forces.

On 4 February 1995, the Secretary-General submitted to the Security Council a report on the activities of UNMOT. He stated that on several occasions in January 1995, UNMOT's team at Pyanj had reported shelling by the Russian border forces towards Afghanistan. At the end of January, the Joint Commission had carried out an investigation in northern Afghanistan in response to a complaint by the opposition.

The Secretary-General pointed out that one of the issues that had emerged during the reporting period was the existence of discrepancies between the mandate of the Russian border forces, which had broad powers of search and arrest in the border areas, and the provisions of the cease-fire. This had been the subject of a continuing dialogue with the Russian authorities and, in particular, with the Russian border forces in Tajikistan in order to find a way for those forces to carry out their mandate within the spirit and provisions of the Tehran Agreement.

Joint Commission. The Joint Commission of the Tajik parties is the main instrument for the maintenance of the cease-fire. The Secretary-General reported that UNMOT had been closely involved in the Commission's work and chaired its meetings. UNMOT military observers participated in the Commission's field investigations. Cooperation between the Commission's members was smooth and its findings so far had been adopted by consensus. There were, however, financial and logistic difficulties in the work of the Commission.

Although the Secretary-General had made arrangements for a trust fund to support the Joint Commission in accordance with the Protocol to the Tehran Agreement and had sent an appeal to Member States to contribute to it, no contributions had been received.

Liaison. In the report, the Secretary-General observed that UNMOT had maintained close liaison with the parties to the conflict as well as with the CIS Collective Peace-keeping Forces and the Russian border forces on matters relating to the maintenance of the cease-fire. It had also been in close touch with the representatives of the States and international organizations that were observers at the inter-Tajik talks. However, it had been difficult to maintain regular contact with the opposition in Afghanistan, with which liaison had been maintained mainly through its members in the Joint Commission. In addition, the Secretariat had been in telephone contact with political leaders of the opposition in the Islamic Republic of Iran. UNMOT had also continued to provide political liaison and coordination for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan.

Organizational aspects. The Secretary-General informed the Security Council that at the end of January 1995, UNMOT's total personnel had numbered 55, of which 22 were military observers, 11 were international civilian staff and 22 were local staff. The military observers had been provided by Austria (4), Bangladesh (7), Denmark (2), Hungary (1), Jordan (5) and Uruguay (3). UNMOT was headed by Mr. Liviu Bota, while the Chief Military Observer was Brigadier-General Hasan Abaza (Jordan). In addition to its headquarters at Dushanbe, UNMOT maintained field stations at Garm, Kurgan-Tube and Pyanj. Additional field stations were to be opened as soon as the necessary personnel and equipment had arrived.

FURTHER CONSULTATIONS

In his 4 February report, the Secretary-General also informed the Security Council of his further efforts to make progress towards national reconciliation in Tajikistan. He recalled that during the third round of inter-Tajik talks, the two sides had agreed to hold the next round in Moscow in early December 1994. When delays occurred in convening the fourth round, the Secretary-General instructed his Special Envoy to undertake consultations with the Tajik Government, leaders of the opposition and certain Governments in the region. From 12 to 21 December 1994, the Special Envoy visited Dushanbe, Moscow and Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan.

During those consultations, President Rakhmonov of Tajikistan supported the idea of an early fourth round of

inter-Tajik negotiations in Moscow, with the aim of extending the Tehran Agreement and achieving further progress in mutual confidence-building measures with the opposition. He also indicated his willingness to postpone the elections scheduled for 26 February 1995, provided the leaders of the opposition would state that they were willing to participate in the elections and to recognize their results. It was believed that such a postponement would provide an opportunity to introduce necessary reforms in Tajikistan, creating the requisite environment for free and fair elections under international monitoring.

From 12 to 15 January 1995, a United Nations team held consultations with the Tajik opposition leaders in Tehran and with high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Tajik opposition leaders showed no interest in participating at that stage in parliamentary elections, even if they were to be postponed for a few months. They also stated that the opposition could not accept Moscow as the venue for the next round of talks, regardless of the previous agreement on the issue in the Islamabad communiqué, unless the Russian Federation would: officially recognize the Tehran Agreement; return to the opposition the weapons and ammunition seized since the Agreement had come into force; remove the new checkpoints established on the road connecting the towns of Khorog and Kalaikhumb in Gorno-Badakhshan; and delegate a representative of the border forces to the Russian observer team during the negotiations.

Consequently, the Tajik Government announced that the parliamentary elections would take place on 26 February 1995, as originally scheduled.

The Secretary-General informed the Security Council that, in a letter addressed to him on 25 January 1995, President Rakhmonov had stated that the Government of Tajikistan had been prepared to extend the Tehran Agreement for any length of time without any additional conditions. The President had also reconfirmed the commitment of his Government to ensure the continuation of the talks.

Mr. Akbar Turajonzodah, head of the Tajik opposition delegation and First Deputy Chairman of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan, in a letter to the Secretary-General dated 27 January 1995, had also emphasized the need to resolve the conflict through political means at the negotiating table. In this regard, he had declared a one-month extension — until 6 March 1995 — of the Tehran Agreement, in connection with the holy month of Ramadan. He had expressed the hope that this would give an opportunity to continue the inter-Tajik political talks and lead to significant progress in resolving the fundamental issues on the agenda of the talks. Mr. Turajonzodah had also stated that, in view of the constructive and stabilizing role of UNMOT, the Tajik opposition hoped that the Secretary-General would recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the mission.

On 3 February 1995, a delegation of the Tajik opposition headed by Mr. Turajonzodah, visited United Nations Headquarters in New York. Senior Secretariat officials urged the delegation to accept that the fourth round of talks should take place at an early date in Moscow, as had been agreed at the third round of talks in Islamabad. Mr. Turajonzodah stated that the opposition was ready to participate in the fourth round of talks at any time but that it could not agree that it should be held in Moscow. This was because of actions by the Russian border forces which the opposition considered to be violations of the Tehran Agreement. The opposition was, however, ready to meet in any other capital of a member of the CIS.

FOURTH ROUND REMAINS BLOCKED

The Secretary-General concluded his 4 February report by saying that the Tajik parties had complied only partially with the requirements of Security Council resolution 968 (1994). Both had agreed to an extension of the cease-fire beyond 6 February 1995, though the opposition's agreement was to an extension of only one month. Both had also stated their commitment to a continuing political process. But the opposition's unwillingness to accept Moscow as a venue for the next round

of inter-Tajik talks made it impossible for the Secretary-General to report to the Council that negotiations were being actively pursued.

The activities of UNMOT, the Secretary-General continued, were an important stabilizing factor in the country. This was recognized by both Tajik parties. Although the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks remained blocked, both sides still stated they were determined to continue the political process under the auspices of the United Nations. The Secretary-General recommended that UNMOT's presence in Tajikistan be continued for another month, until 6 March 1995, on the understanding that every effort would be made during that period to obtain agreement on the holding of the next round of talks as soon as possible.

On 6 February 1995, the Security Council endorsed the Secretary-General's recommendation concerning the extension of UNMOT for another month. The Council urged the Tajik parties to reconfirm through concrete steps their commitment to resolve the conflict only through political means, and their commitment to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy.

SEARCH FOR PEACE CONTINUES

In an effort to overcome the impasse, the Secretary-General asked Under-Secretary-General Aldo Ajello, who had previously served as the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Mozambique, to undertake consultations with senior government officials of the Russian Federation and Tajikistan, and leaders of the Tajik opposition, in connection with preparations for the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks. Mr. Ajello was to discuss the venue, date and agenda for the fourth round and to obtain agreement on the extension of the cease-fire. He had consultations in Moscow from 24 to 27 February, in Dushanbe from 28 February to 1 March, in Islamabad from 2 to 4 March, and once again in Moscow from 5 to 9 March.

As a result of the negotiations, the parties agreed to extend the cease-fire agreement until 26 April 1995. The Secretary-General asked Mr. Ajello to continue his mission in an effort to resolve the remaining difficulties in arranging the fourth round of talks.

In view of the extension of the cease-fire agreement, the Secretary-General, in a letter dated 3 March 1995 to the President of the Security Council, recommended that UNMOT's presence in Tajikistan be continued until 26 April 1995. On 6 March, the Council endorsed that recommendation.

COMPOSITION

As of 6 March 1995, the following countries were providing military observers:

COUNTRY	OBSERVERS
Austria	2
Bangladesh	7
Denmark	2
Jordan	3
Uruguay	3
TOTAL	17

SELECTED SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE SITUATION IN TAJIKISTAN

(30 October 1992 — 6 March 1995)

SECURITY COUNCIL

Under the United Nations Charter, the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. All United Nations Member States have agreed to accept and carry out the Council's decisions in accordance with the Charter. The Council is composed of 15 members. Five are permanent: China, France, the Russian Federation,* the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. The 10 non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly to serve two-year terms. Since 1992, non-permanent members of the Security Council were as follows:

1992 — Austria, Belgium, Cape Verde, Ecuador, Hungary, India, Japan, Morocco, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

1993 — Brazil, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Hungary, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Pakistan, Spain and Venezuela.

1994 — Argentina, Brazil, Czech Republic, Djibouti, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Rwanda and Spain.

1995 — Argentina, Botswana, the Czech Republic, Germany, Honduras, Indonesia, Italy, Nigeria, Oman and Rwanda.

Each member of the Security Council has one vote. Decisions on substantive matters require nine affirmative votes including the concurring votes of all five permanent members. The permanent members may abstain or not participate at all in the voting, and still satisfy the stipulation of their concurrence in the affirmative vote. A negative vote by any permanent member means the rejection of the draft resolution or proposal.

The full text of selected Security Council documents relevant to the situation in Tajikistan is reproduced on the following pages.

* The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was an original Member of the United Nations from 24 October 1945. In a letter dated 24 December 1991, the President of the Russian Federation informed the Secretary-General that the membership of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the United Nations, including the Security Council and all the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, was being continued by the Russian Federation with the support of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
30 October 1992 (S/24742)

Following consultations with the members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made the following statement, on behalf of the members of the Council, at its 3131st meeting, held on 30 October 1992, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Tajikistan":

The Security Council has considered the communications received from the Government of Tajikistan.

The Security Council expresses its very grave concern about the continuing deterioration in the situation in Tajikistan, which is causing considerable loss of human life and serious material damage. It notes with concern the consequences for peace and security in the region that this crisis might entail.

The Security Council calls on all parties to the conflict to end the fighting. It urges the Government of Tajikistan, local authorities, party leaders and other groups concerned to enter into a political dialogue with a view to reaching an overall settlement of the conflict by peaceful means. It calls on parties in neighbouring countries to refrain from any action which might contribute to increasing tension and to impeding a settlement.

The Security Council welcomes the efforts made by the member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, on the initiative of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, and those undertaken by other States to help Tajikistan to resolve the crisis. It invites the Government of Tajikistan and all other parties to the conflict to cooperate actively with all these efforts.

The Security Council welcomes the Secretary-General's decision to send a goodwill mission, including a humanitarian assistance mission, to Tajikistan and Central Asia, in response to the requests of the Governments of the region, within the next few days as a contribution by the United Nations to resolving the conflict.

The Security Council calls on all parties to the conflict and the neighbouring countries to facilitate the work of the Secretary-General's mission and to ensure the safety of its personnel.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
29 April 1993 (S/25698)

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 26 April 1993 (S/25697) concerning Tajikistan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. After having held consultations, the members of the Council have asked me to express their appreciation for the work of the small integrated United Nations team sent to Tajikistan. They are concerned at the situation in Tajikistan as reported in your letter and accordingly welcome your decision to appoint Ambassador Ismat Kittani as your Special Envoy for Tajikistan. They also welcome your proposal that the small team of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan should remain there for a further three months.

The members of the Council look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan, on Ambassador Kittani's mission as it develops, and on any future recommendations you wish to make in the context of that mission.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
President of the Security Council

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
23 August 1993 (S/26341)

Following consultations with the members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 3266th meeting, on 23 August 1993, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border":

The Security Council expresses its deep concern at the continuing violence and armed conflict in Tajikistan, at the escalating crisis along the Tajik-Afghan border, and

at the risk of the conflict threatening the peace and stability of Central Asia and beyond.

The Council stresses the urgent need for the cessation of all hostile actions on the Tajik-Afghan border. It urges the Government of Tajikistan and all opposition groups to accept as soon as possible the need for an overall political solution and to participate in a negotiating process for the early establishment of a cease-fire and eventual national reconciliation with the widest possible participation of all political groups and all the regions of the country. The Council looks to the Government of Tajikistan and all opposition groups to observe basic political rights of all groups in Tajikistan, in order to promote a lasting reconciliation and to achieve full compliance with the principles to which Tajikistan is committed as a participating State in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The Council reaffirms the necessity to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tajikistan and all other countries of the region and the inviolability of their borders.

The Council welcomes efforts by regional parties aimed at stabilizing the situation. In particular, the Council welcomes the 7 August 1993 Moscow summit of Heads of State and Government from the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, at the initiative of the Russian Federation, and the 6–7 July 1993 Istanbul summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and their decisions aimed at peaceful solutions to the problems on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Furthermore, it welcomes the efforts of the Conference on Cooperation and Security in Europe (CSCE). The Council recognizes the actions of the Governments of Afghanistan and Tajikistan which created new negotiating bodies aimed at reducing tension along their common border.

The Council draws attention to the critical humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and the Tajik refugee camps in northern Afghanistan and the need for additional humanitarian assistance. Stabilizing the situation along the Tajik-Afghan border should assist UNHCR in performing its mission. The Council calls upon the Government of Tajikistan to continue to assist in the return and reintegration of all Tajiks who fled this civil war and who wish to return to their homes.

The Council expresses appreciation for the Secretary-General's report of 16 August 1993 (S/26311) and welcomes the Secretary-General's proposals to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy until 31 October 1993 and to extend the tenure of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan for a period of three months. In light of the unstable situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, the Council welcomes the Secretary-General's decision to dispatch his Special Envoy to Afghanistan and other countries in the region. The Council also welcomes the receptivity of the Secretary-General to possible requests from the parties for United Nations assistance in their efforts already under way and requests that he and his Special Envoy maintain close contact with the parties.

The Council looks forward to receiving periodic reports from the Secretary-General on his Special Envoy's mission and the Secretary-General's recommendations for ways the United Nations may assist in resolving the situation and for defining more clearly the possible ambit of United Nations involvement.

The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

23 November 1993 (S/26794)

The members of the Security Council have requested me to thank you for your report dated 14 November 1993 on Tajikistan (S/26743). They are concerned at the situation in Tajikistan as reported therein and accordingly welcome your decision to extend the mandate of your Special Envoy until 31 March 1994. They agree with your proposal contained in paragraph 16 of your report that the small team of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan continue to perform their functions

until a decision is taken on the proposal to establish an integrated office.

The members of the Council welcome the continuing efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) in Tajikistan and look forward to the close coordination you will deem appropriate to maintain and develop between the United Nations and the CSCE.

The members of the Council look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan and on any future recommendations you might wish to make.

(Signed) José Luis JESUS
President of the Security Council

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
22 December 1993 (S/26913)

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 16 December 1993 (S/26912) concerning the appointment of Ambassador Ramiro Piriz-Ballón to succeed Ambassador Ismat Kittani as your Special Envoy to Tajikistan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council.

The members of the Council welcome your decision and look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan, on Ambassador Piriz-Ballón's mission as it develops and on any future recommendations you might wish to make in the context of that mission.

(Signed) LI Zhaoxing
President of the Security Council

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
22 April 1994 (S/1994/494)

I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have considered your report of 4 April 1994 (S/1994/379) on the outcome of the discussions held in January and February by your Special Envoy for Tajikistan, Ambassador Ramiro Piriz-Ballón, with the Government of Tajikistan and other parties including representatives of neighbouring and other countries.

The members of the Council have asked me to express their appreciation for the work of your Special Envoy. They particularly welcome his efforts, and those of the Russian Federation and of neighbouring States, in securing the agreement of the parties to begin a political dialogue on national reconciliation.

The members of the Council welcome your decision to enlarge the mandate of your Special Envoy and to extend it by a further three months to the end of June 1994, as well as your intention to continue the presence of the small group of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan for a similar period.

The members of the Council look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan, and briefings on Ambassador Piriz-Ballón's mission, in particular on the progress of the political talks, and any future recommendations you might wish to make.

(Signed) Colin KEATING
President of the Security Council

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
19 May 1994 (S/1994/597)

The members of the Security Council have considered your report of 5 May 1994 (S/1994/542) about the situation in Tajikistan and the efforts that you and your Special Envoy, Ambassador R. Piriz-Ballón, have been undertaking to promote political dialogue between the Tajik parties, aimed at achieving national reconciliation.

The members of the Council have asked me to convey to you their full support for your efforts and those of your Special Envoy in addressing the three clusters of issues identified by the Tajik parties, which are related to the achievement of national reconciliation: those of a polit-

ical settlement; the solution of the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons; and fundamental institutional issues. They are encouraged, as you are, by the outcome of the first inter-Tajik talks in Moscow, in which both parties reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation. The members of the Council concur with your observation that it is important to capitalize on the momentum achieved in Moscow in order to make the political dialogue irreversible.

The members of the Council commend the role of the Russian Federation in organizing and holding the first round of negotiations in Moscow. They also note with appreciation the valuable help provided to this end by regional and other countries attending the talks as observers. They are hopeful that the second round of talks that your Special Envoy is preparing to undertake would consolidate the gains made in the first round of talks. In this connection, they appeal to the Tajik parties to cooperate fully with you, your Special Envoy and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe mission in Tajikistan to advance the process of negotiations and the reconciliation of the Tajik nation and to refrain from any action that could obstruct this process.

The members of the Council look forward to receiving your next report on the situation in Tajikistan.

(Signed) Ibrahim A.GAMBARI
President of the Security Council

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
22 September 1994 (S/PRST/1994/56)

At the 3427th meeting of the Security Council, held on 22 September 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Tajikistan and long the Tajik-Afghan border", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council welcomes the Agreement on a provisional cease-fire signed by the representatives of the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition on 17 September 1994 (S/1994/1080, annex) in Tehran through the good offices of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy and with the assistance of the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and other countries acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks. The parties agreed to the provisional cessation of all hostile actions on the Tajik-Afghan border and inside Tajikistan with the assistance of United Nations military observers. The Council expresses the hope that the third round of the inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad will further consolidate the progress towards the political settlement.

The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and of his Special Envoy to promote political dialogue between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition aimed at achieving national reconciliation.

The Security Council notes the request of the parties to the Council for United Nations support for the Agreement. It invites the Secretary-General to present urgently his views and recommendations regarding this request and other aspects of the implementation of the Agreement.

The Council emphasizes the importance of implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves and in this connection stresses the need for strict observance of the cease-fire and cessation of other hostile actions.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
29 September 1994 (S/1994/1118)

The members of the Security Council wish to express their appreciation for your report on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1994/1102), following the Agreement on a Temporary Cease-fire and the cessation of other hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country for the duration of the talks. They considered your report at the informal consultations held on 28 September 1994 and heard a briefing by your Special Envoy for Tajikistan, Mr. Ramiro Piriz-Ballón.

The members of the Security Council took note of the observations and recommendations contained in your report, including the four-month extension of the presence of the small group of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan. The members paid particular attention to your decision to send up to 15 observers to strengthen this group, in continuation of the functions set out in your report of 16 June 1994 (S/1994/716). They understand this arrangement to be a temporary measure pending a decision by the Security Council on the possible establishment of a United Nations observer mission in Tajikistan on the basis of your further recommendations.

The members of the Council strongly support your call to the parties to exercise maximum restraint in the period before the Agreement enters into force. They also reaffirm the importance of implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves.

The members of the Security Council wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your Special Envoy for the continuous efforts to contribute to the political settlement in Tajikistan.

(Signed) Juan Antonio YÁÑEZ-BARNUEVO
President of the Security Council

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
8 November 1994 (S/PRST/1994/65)

At the 3452nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 8 November 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

The Security Council welcomes the agreement by the parties in the course of the third round of inter-Tajik talks, held in Islamabad from 20 to 31 October 1994, on the extension until 6 February 1995 of the Agreement of 17 September 1994 on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, as well as signing of the Protocol of the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Agreement. These agreements were arrived at through the good offices of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy and with the assistance of the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation and other countries and of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks.

The Council further welcomes the reaffirmed commitment by the parties to resolve the conflict only through political means and their agreement to hold the next round of talks in early December 1994 in Moscow.

The Council emphasizes the importance of full and timely implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves including those relating to the exchange of prisoners. It especially stresses the need for strict observance of the cease-fire and cessation of all hostile acts.

The Council invites the parties to make all the efforts necessary to achieve further substantial progress during the next round of inter-Tajik talks. It calls upon them to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for this purpose.

The Council reaffirms its support for the efforts by the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy to facilitate the political dialogue between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition aimed at achieving national reconciliation. It welcomes the establishment by the parties of a Joint Commission to monitor the implementation of the 17 September Agreement, and requests the Secretary-General to present expeditiously his views and recommendations regarding the role that the United Nations could play in assisting the practical implementation of the agreements achieved including any implications for the current United Nations Mission to Tajikistan.

The Council calls upon the international community, and in particular, the States of the region to render utmost support to the consolidation of the progress towards

national reconciliation achieved in the course of the inter-Tajik talks and to abstain from any actions that could complicate the peace process.

RESOLUTION 968 (1994)
16 December 1994

Adopted by unanimous vote.
Prepared in the course of the Council's consultations.

The Security Council,

Recalling the statements of the President of the Security Council of 30 October 1992 (S/24742), of 23 August 1993 (S/26341), of 22 September 1994 (S/PRST/1994/56) and 8 November 1994 (S/PRST/1994/65),

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 27 September 1994 (S/1994/1102) and of 30 November 1994 (S/1994/1363),

Welcoming the agreement between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition in the course of the third round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad on the extension until 6 February 1995 of the Agreement of 17 September 1994 on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks signed in Tehran (S/1994/1102, annex 1),

Welcoming also the signing of the Protocol on the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Agreement of 17 September 1994 (S/1994/1253, annex),

Commending the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, as well as of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks which contributed to reaching these agreements,

Emphasizing that the primary responsibility rests with the Tajik parties themselves in resolving their differences, and that the international assistance provided by this resolution must be linked to the process of national reconciliation, including *inter alia* free and fair elections and further confidence-building measures by the parties,

Welcoming the reaffirmed commitment by the parties to resolve the conflict only through political means,

Stressing the importance of achieving further substantial progress during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks in Moscow,

Recalling the statements of 24 August and of 30 September 1993 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan addressed to the Secretary-General (S/26357 and S/26610),

Acknowledging positively the readiness of the Collective Peace-keeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan to work together with United Nations observers to assist in maintaining the cease-fire, as declared in a joint statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan on 13 October 1994 (S/1994/1178),

Underlining the importance of close liaison between the United Nations Mission of Observers on the one hand and the Collective Peace-keeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan and the border forces on the other hand,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 30 November 1994 (S/1994/1363);

2. Decides to establish a United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) in accordance with the plan outlined by the Secretary-General in the above-mentioned report with the following mandate:

(a) To assist the Joint Commission to monitor the implementation of the Agreement of 17 September 1994;

(b) To investigate reports of cease-fire violations and to report on them to the United Nations and to the Joint Commission;

(c) To provide its good offices as stipulated in the Agreement of 17 September 1994;

(d) To maintain close contacts with the parties to the conflict, as well as close liaison with the CSCE Mission in Tajikistan and with the Collective Peace-keeping

Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan and with the border forces;

(e) To provide support for the efforts of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy;

(f) To provide political liaison and coordination services, which could facilitate expeditious humanitarian assistance by the international community;

3. Decides that the Mission be established for a period of up to six months subject to the proviso that it will continue beyond 6 February 1995 only if the Secretary-General reports to the Council by that date that the parties have agreed to extend the Agreement of 17 September 1994, and that they remain committed to an effective cease-fire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the report provided for in paragraph 3 above an account of the work of the Mission up to that date, and to submit, at two-monthly intervals thereafter, reports on that work and on progress towards national reconciliation;

5. Requests also the Secretary-General to continue to pursue through the good offices of his Special Envoy efforts to speed up the progress towards national reconciliation;

6. Calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission, and to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of United Nations personnel;

7. Calls on the Government of Tajikistan to conclude expeditiously with the United Nations an agreement on the status of the Mission and ***requests*** the Secretary-General to inform the Security Council in this regard in his report provided for in paragraph 3 above;

8. Calls upon the parties to redouble their efforts to achieve as soon as possible a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy in this regard;

9. Urges the parties to strictly comply with the obligations they have assumed to implement fully the Agreement of 17 September 1994 and to refrain from any steps that could aggravate the existing situation or hinder the process towards national reconciliation;

10. Welcomes the release of detainees and prisoners of war which took place on 12 November 1994 in Khorog, and ***calls*** for further such confidence-building measures by the parties and for unhindered access to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to all persons detained by all parties in relation to the armed conflict;

11. Urges all States and others concerned to facilitate the process of national reconciliation and to refrain from any actions that could complicate the peace process;

12. Welcomes the humanitarian assistance already provided and ***calls for*** greater contributions from Member States for the humanitarian relief efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary fund for contributions in support of the implementation of the Agreement of 17 September 1994 on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, in particular in support of the activities of the Joint Commission, and ***encourages*** Member States to contribute thereto;

14. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

6 February 1995 (S/1995/109)

The members of the Security Council have noted your report of 4 February 1995 (S/1995/105) in response to paragraph 3 of Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994.

The members of the Council endorse the recommendation contained in paragraph 32 of the report concerning the continuation of the presence of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) in Tajikistan for another month, until 6 March 1995. Continuation and effective observance of the cease-fire Agreement on 17 September 1994 (S/1994/1102, annex I) is vital.

Reaffirming Security Council resolution 968 (1994), the members of the Council urge the parties in the interim to reconfirm through concrete steps their commitment to resolve the conflict only through political means, and their commitment to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy.

(Signed) Legwaila Joseph LEGWAILA
President of the Security Council

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
6 March 1995 (S/1995/180)

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 3 March 1995 (S/1995/179) concerning the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council.

The members of the Council endorse your recommendation, in view of the agreement of the parties to continue the cease-fire, that UNMOT'S presence in Tajikistan be continued until 26 April 1995. Reaffirming Security Council resolution 968 (1994), the members of the Council urge the parties in the interim to resolve the remaining difficulties in arranging the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks aimed at reaching a political settlement to the conflict.

The members of the Council welcome your intention to revert to the Council at the conclusion of Under-Secretary-General Aldo Ajello's mission and will be looking forward to a report at that time.

(Signed) LI Zhaoxing
President of the Security Council

ANNEXES

Annex I (Reproduced from document S/1994/542)

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTER-TAJIK TALKS ON NATIONAL RECONCILIATION DATED 11 APRIL 1994

In the interests of achieving progress in the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation and in view of the possibility of armed clashes and other hostile incidents that could complicate the negotiating process, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the participants in the talks appeal to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and to the Tajik opposition forces to refrain from any act that could complicate the process of the negotiations that have been initiated.

Annex II (Reproduced from document S/1994/542)

PROTOCOL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT COMMISSION ON PROBLEMS RELATING TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS FROM TAJIKISTAN SIGNED ON 19 APRIL 1994

The participants in the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation under United Nations auspices have agreed as follows:

1. A joint commission on problems relating to refugees and displaced persons from Tajikistan (hereinafter called "the Joint Commission") shall be established, on the basis of parity, with effect from 19 April 1994. The Joint Commission shall be composed, on the one hand, of representatives of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and, on the other, of representatives of the opposition, including the "Umed" ("Nadezhda") Fund.

2. The Joint Commission shall work within the framework of the negotiating process and coordinate its activities with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the migration services and the competent local organs of power of States that have refugees and displaced persons from Tajikistan in their territory. If necessary, the Joint Commission may establish working groups of experts.

3. The participants in the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation appeal to the United Nations to provide financial assistance to the Joint Commission.

Annex III (Reproduced from document S/1994/542)

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST ROUND OF THE INTER-TAJIK TALKS ON NATIONAL RECONCILIATION DATED 19 APRIL 1994

The first round of the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, took place in Moscow from 5 to 19 April 1994. The delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan was headed by Mr. S. Zukhurov, Minister of Labour and Employment and Mr. O. Latifi, Chairman of the Coordinating Committee of the Democratic Forces of Tajikistan in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, acted as head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition. During the talks, Mr. Píriz-Ballón, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, served as a mediator.

The talks took place in a businesslike and open manner and in an atmosphere of good will. Both sides demonstrated a sincere concern to resolve the complex set of political, military, humanitarian and socio-economic problems arising from the political confrontation and civil war in the Republic of Tajikistan.

The participants in the talks drew up and adopted a comprehensive agenda for the period of the whole

negotiating process, comprising three main sets of problems relating to the achievement of national reconciliation:

(a) Measures aimed at a political settlement of the situation in Tajikistan;

(b) A solution to the problem of refugees and displaced persons;

(c) Fundamental questions relating to the constitutional structure and the consolidation of the statehood of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The parties agreed to consider all three sets of problems together and they set out in working papers their positions on all the items included in the agenda.

Recognizing the need to create an atmosphere of mutual trust, the parties and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the outset of the inter-Tajik talks, agreed upon and signed a joint statement calling upon "the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition forces to refrain from any act that could complicate the process of the negotiations that have been initiated".

The parties signed a Protocol establishing a joint commission on problems relating to refugees and displaced persons from Tajikistan. The Protocol was signed on the understanding that the Commission's immediate task would be to resolve the urgent humanitarian problems that exist and to count and register the refugees. The parties also expressed their appreciation to all those States that had offered assistance in accommodating the refugees and displaced persons from Tajikistan, and to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations for their assistance.

The parties once again reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation. In this connection, in accordance with the previously agreed principle of the rotation of the venue of the talks, the parties agreed to request the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to hold consultations to determine the venue and times for the second and third rounds of the inter-Tajik talks.

The parties expressed deep gratitude to the Government of the Russian Federation for the hospitality, assistance and cooperation it had offered in connection with the organization and holding of the first round of talks in Moscow.

The parties also expressed their appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his Special Envoy, Mr. R. Píriz-Ballón, and to the representatives of the States that had attended the talks as observers for their help and cooperation in connection with the organization and holding of the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation.

Annex IV (Reproduced from document S/1994/542)

JOINT DECLARATION BY THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTER-TAJIK TALKS ON THE PROBLEM OF THE TIGER GORGE (TIGROVAYA BALKA) WILDLIFE PRESERVE

The Tiger Gorge (Tigrovaya Balka) Wildlife Preserve is a unique small corner of unspoiled nature, without equal in the world. It is the last relic of the northern type of Indian jungle in the territory of central Asia. Within its limits, the last natural population of the Bukhara deer is preserved and a surviving species of sturgeon — the Amu Darya pseudo-shovel-nosed sturgeon — still lives in the waters of the Vakhsh river. Dozens of species of animals and plants that can be found in the Preserve are included in the "Red databook": the grey monitor lizard and the Central Asian cobra, the Saker falcon and the Houbara bustard, the Central Asian otter and the Near Asian leopard.

Recognizing the lasting value of Tiger Gorge not only to the Tajik people but to the whole of mankind, we urge that all possible measures be taken to preserve its territory and flora and fauna. The Preserve must be kept for future generations, despite any political, economic and social difficulties.

The participants in the inter-Tajik talks appeal to the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to include the Tiger Gorge (Tigrovaya Balka) Wildlife Preserve in the World Heritage List.

Annex V (Reproduced from document S/1994/893)

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND ROUND OF INTER-TAJIK TALKS ON NATIONAL RECONCILIATION 28 JUNE 1994

The second round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, under United Nations auspices, took place in Tehran from 18 to 28 June 1994 with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). The delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan was led by Mr. S. Zukhurov, Minister of Labour and Employment. Mr. O. Latifi, Chairman of the Coordinating Committee of the Democratic Forces of Tajikistan in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries, was acting head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition. During the talks, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Ambassador R. Píriz-Ballón acted as intermediary.

The talks were business-like and frank. The two parties demonstrated a sincere desire to resolve the questions on the agenda for the talks in a constructive spirit.

In accordance with the agenda for inter-Tajik talks that was adopted during the first round in Moscow from 5 to 14 April 1994 and the agreements reached in the course of consultations in Tehran between the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tajikistan, Ambassador R. Píriz-Ballón, and leaders of the Tajik opposition as well as the talks between the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. M. Goulding, and leaders of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in Dushanbe in May 1994, agreement was reached on the need to focus attention during the second round of talks on achieving an agreement on a cease-fire and cessation of other hostile acts.

The participants in the talks, through the mediation of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, carried out extensive and fruitful work in order to solve one of the most complex problems relating to the settlement of the Tajik conflict. The parties worked out and agreed on the terms of the cease-fire and the cessation of other hostile acts, which include:

(a) Cessation by the parties of all military actions, including any infringement of the Tajik-Afghan frontier, offensive operations inside the country, the shelling of adjacent territory, the conduct of any military exercises, or the redeployment of regular or irregular military units in Tajikistan and Afghanistan which may lead to the breakdown of this agreement;

> *Note:* In this connection, the procedure for the stationing, redeployment and other types of activities of Russian troops and the Collective Peace-keeping Forces of the CIS countries in Tajikistan which are in accordance with agreements on the role of those forces will be defined within the framework of the mechanism for implementing this agreement.

(b) Cessation by the parties of terrorist and subversive acts on the Tajik-Afghan frontier, inside the Republic and in other countries;

(c) Prevention by the parties of killings, hostage-taking, unlawful arrest and detention, and plundering of the civilian population and servicemen in the Republic and other countries;

(d) Prevention of the blockading of inhabited areas, industrial and military sites as well as any communication facilities;

(e) Halting of the use of any communication facilities or mass media in order to undermine the process of national reconciliation;

(f) Refraining from using religion and the religious feelings of believers or any ideology for hostile purposes.

The parties also reached agreement on the time-frame covered by the agreement (the period of talks up to 1 October 1994); and questions relating to the establishment of a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for the temporary cease-fire and cessation of other hostile acts were also considered.

At the same time, differences in the approach by the parties with regard to the procedure for the entry into force of the agreement arose during the talks. The delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan insisted on the need for a cease-fire and cessation of other hostile acts immediately after the signing of the agreement and undertook the obligation to fulfil the conditions put forward by the delegation of the opposition during the period of the cease-fire and cessation of other hostile acts. The delegation of the Tajik opposition in turn insisted on the need for the simultaneous entry into force of the agreement on the cease-fire and cessation of other hostile acts and fulfilment by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan of the conditions put forward by it: at the same time as the release of persons that were detained, arrested or sentenced; dismissal of all criminal cases initiated in connection with political confrontation and the civil war; lifting of the ban on activities by political parties and movements; and resumption of activities by the mass media.

In spite of the good will and flexibility displayed by the two parties and certain reciprocal steps taken, they were unable to reach consensus on the agreement, the text of which was practically agreed.

Realizing their responsibility for the fate of the people of Tajikistan, the parties reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the sole means of achieving national reconciliation. In that connection, on the basis of the earlier agreed principle of rotation of the venue for the talks, the parties agreed to hold the next round in Islamabad and request the Secretary-General's Special Envoy to hold consultations in order to determine the dates for the third round of talks.

The parties expressed their profound gratitude to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the hospitality, help and assistance that it provided in organizing and holding the second round of talks in Tehran.

The parties also expressed their appreciation to the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, Mr. R. Píriz-Ballón, as well as the representatives of the observer States and CSCE at the talks for their help and assistance in organizing and holding the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation.

(Signed) S. ZUKHUROV
Head of the delegation
of the Republic of Tajikistan

(Signed) O. LATIFI
Acting Head of the delegation
of the Tajik Opposition

(Signed) R. PÍRIZ-BALLÓN
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Annex VI (Reproduced from document S/1994/1102)

AGREEMENT ON A TEMPORARY CEASE-FIRE AND THE CESSATION OF OTHER HOSTILE ACTS ON THE TAJIK-AFGHAN BORDER AND WITHIN THE COUNTRY FOR THE DURATION OF THE TALKS

The delegations of the leaders of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"), in the course of the consultations on national reconciliation held in Tehran from 12 to 17 September 1994 under United Nations auspices, as a major step towards a global political settlement of the conflict, national reconciliation and the solution of the problem of refugees, the constitutional system and the consolidation of the statehood of the independent and sovereign Republic of Tajikistan, have agreed:

1. To halt, on a temporary basis, hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country.

2. The Parties have agreed that the concept of "cessation of hostilities" shall include the following:

(a) The cessation by the Parties of all military activities, including all violations of the Tajik-Afghan border, offensive operations within the country, the shelling of adjacent territories, the conduct of all forms of military training, the redeployment of regular and irregular mili-

tary formations in Tajikistan, which might result in the breakdown of this Agreement;

Note: The Collective Peace-keeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Russian troops in Tajikistan shall carry out their duties in keeping with the principle of neutrality, which is part of their mandate, and shall cooperate with United Nations military observers.

(b) The cessation by the Parties of acts of terrorism and sabotage on the Tajik-Afghan border within the Republic and in other countries;

(c) The prevention by the Parties of murders, the taking of hostages, unlawful arrest and detention, and acts of pillage against the civilian population and servicemen in the Republic and other countries;

(d) The prevention of blockades of populated areas, national economic and military installations and of all means of communication;

(e) The cessation of the use of all forms of communication and mass media to undermine the process of national reconciliation;

(f) The Parties shall refrain from using religion and the religious feelings of believers, as well as any ideology, for hostile purposes.

3. The Parties have agreed to a temporary cease-fire and the cessation of other hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country until the referendum on the draft of the new constitution and the election of the president of the Republic of Tajikistan, on the understanding that this is only a first step towards the achievement of national harmony and the settlement of all issues included in the agenda of the talks.

4. With a view to building confidence, the Parties have agreed that, within one month following the signing of this Agreement:

(a) The authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan shall release those who have been arrested and sentenced, in conformity with the list annexed hereto;

(b) The Tajik opposition shall release the prisoners of war in conformity with the list annexed hereto.

5. With a view to ensuring the effective implementation of this Agreement, the Parties have agreed to establish a Joint Commission consisting of representatives of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition. The Parties request the Security Council of the United Nations to assist the work of the Commission by providing political mediation services and dispatching United Nations military observers to the areas of conflict.

6. This Agreement was signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994 and shall enter into force as soon as United Nations observers are deployed in Tajikistan.

Head of the delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan:	Head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition:
A. DOSTIEV	A. TURAJONZODAH

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations:

R. PÍRIZ-BALLÓN

Annex VII (Reproduced from document S/1994/1102)

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL INTER-TAJIK CONSULTATIONS ON NATIONAL RECONCILIATION TEHRAN, 17 SEPTEMBER 1994

From 12 to 17 September 1994, high-level inter-Tajik consultations were held at Tehran under United Nations auspices. The delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan was headed by Mr. A. Dostiev, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan. The delegation of the opposition was headed by Mr. A. Turajonzodah, head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition. Talks were also held with Mr. A. Nuri, leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan. During the consultations, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ambassador R. Píriz-Ballón, served as mediator.

The consultations were held in a frank and businesslike atmosphere, which demonstrated the desire of the parties to solve the problems facing them in a constructive spirit and enabled them to sign the Agreement on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile

Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks until the referendum on the draft of the new constitution and the election of the president of the Republic of Tajikistan, on the understanding that that was only a first step towards the achievement of national harmony and the settlement of all issues included in the agenda of the talks.

The parties also agreed on mutual confidence-building measures, including the release, within one month following the signing of the Agreement, of members of the opposition who were currently being held in detention centres, and of prisoners of war of the Republic of Tajikistan, in conformity with existing lists.

The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. R. Piriz-Ballón, called upon the parties to exercise mutual restraint during the period following the signing of the Agreement and before its entry into force.

The parties reasserted their firm commitment to the use of political means in the solution of the conflict. In this regard, they agreed to hold the next round of talks in the first half of October in Islamabad, during which they would continue their efforts to achieve national harmony and to settle all the issues included in the agenda of the talks.

The parties expressed their deep gratitude to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its hospitality and assistance in organizing and conducting the consultations in Tehran. They also expressed their thanks to the representatives of the Russian Federation and Pakistan for their assistance in the conduct of the high-level consultations.

The parties expressed their appreciation to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. R. Piriz-Ballón, for his help and assistance in the organization of the inter-Tajik consultations.

A. DOSTIEV
Head of the delegation
of the Republic of Tajikistan

A. TURAJONZODAH
Head of the delegation
of the Tajik opposition

R. PÍRIZ-BALLÓN
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Annex VIII (Reproduced from document S/1994/1253)

PROTOCOL ON THE JOINT COMMISSION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON A PROVISIONAL CEASE-FIRE AND THE CESSATION OF OTHER HOSTILITIES ON THE TAJIK-AFGHAN BORDER AND WITHIN THE COUNTRY

I. Purpose of the Joint Commission

1. The Joint Commission, established in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Agreement on a provisional cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country for the duration of the talks (hereinafter referred to as the "Joint Commission"), shall, by the decision of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition, be the principal body responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Agreement.

II. Composition of the Joint Commission

2. The Joint Commission shall be established on the basis of equality and shall be composed of three representatives of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and three representatives of the Tajik opposition. One representative of each Party shall serve as co-chairman of the Joint Commission.

III. Powers of the Joint Commission

3. The Joint Commission shall have the right to interpret the provisions of the Agreement on a provisional cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country, and also to investigate possible violations of the Agreement by the Parties thereto. In its investigations, the Joint Commission shall have the right to request the submission, at the earliest possible time, of objective, complete and reliable information from any State body or official of the Republic of Tajikistan and also leaders and field commanders of the opposition. In the performance of their duties, the members of the Joint Commission should have free and unimpeded access to all officials of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leaders of the Tajik opposition.

IV. Functions of the Joint Commission

4. The Joint Commission shall monitor the implementation by the Parties of the Agreement on a provisional cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country; investigate cases of violations of the Agreement on the basis of objective information obtained during the investigation; and submit to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition, the United Nations and representatives of observers at the inter-Tajik talks proposals on ways of preventing such violations and of addressing their consequences.

5. In the exercise of its functions, the Joint Commission shall cooperate with the United Nations Mission of Observers, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Tajikistan.

V. Guarantees of security

6. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition shall guarantee the safety and inviolability of the members of the Joint Commission in the performance of their duties. The members of the Joint Commission shall not be subject to detention or arrest and shall not be prosecuted for activities in which they engaged prior to their appointment to the Joint Commission or for acts relating to the performance of their duties as members of the Joint Commission. The Tajik Parties shall guarantee the inviolability of the official premises and living quarters in which the members of the Joint Commission and their families will work and live. The members of the Joint Commission shall have the right to safe and unimpeded travel within the territory of Tajikistan and, with the consent of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, in the territory of Afghanistan, in the areas where camps and bases of the Tajik opposition are situated. They will be accompanied by the United Nations observers. The members of the Joint Commission shall also have the right to maintain without hindrance all forms of communication with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leaders of the Tajik opposition.

VI. Role of the United Nations in assisting the work of the Joint Commission

7. At the request of the Tajik Parties, which is contained in the Agreement, the United Nations shall, through the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, assist the work of the Joint Commission. In accordance with the principle of independence and impartiality, United Nations observers shall monitor implementation of the Agreement by the Tajik Parties and shall investigate possible violations of the Agreement on a provisional cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities. They shall assist the Joint Commission in drafting proposals on the prevention of such violations and shall submit such proposals to the Parties on their own initiative.

VII. Location and duration of the mandate of the Joint Commission

8. The Joint Commission shall have its headquarters in Dushanbe. The Joint Commission shall be established for the duration of the validity of the Agreement on a provisional cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country.

VIII. Logistical support for the Joint Commission activities

9. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan pledges to provide logistical support for the Joint Commission, including providing office space, living quarters and board for the members of the Joint Commission on the territory of the Republic while the opposition provides the same on the territory of Afghanistan. The parties, with United Nations assistance, appeal to the collective peace-keeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States stationed on the territory of Tajikistan and to the international community for financial and logistical support for the Joint Commission. A trust fund to support the work of the Commission, established on the basis of voluntary contributions, will be administered by the United Nations mission in Tajikistan.

IX. Amendment and termination of applicability of provisions of the Protocol

10. The provisions contained in this Protocol and the procedure for their implementation by mutual agreement of the Tajik Parties, as well as the other parties mentioned in this Protocol that are affected by its individual provisions, may be amended or deleted so long as this Protocol remains in force.

Head of the delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan:

(Signed) A. DOSTIEV

Head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition:

(Signed) A.TURAJONZODAH

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations:

(Signed) R. PÍRIZ-BALLÓN

Annex IX (Reproduced from document S/1994/1253)

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE RESULTS OF THE THIRD ROUND OF INTER-TAJIK TALKS ON NATIONAL RECONCILIATION 1 NOVEMBER 1994

The third round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, held under United Nations auspices with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, CSCE and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, took place in Islamabad from 20 October to 1 November 1994. The delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan was headed by Mr. Dostiev, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan, and the delegation of the Tajik opposition by Mr. Turajonzodah, First Deputy Chairman of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan. In the course of the negotiations, good offices were provided by Ambassador Ramiro Píriz-Ballón, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The negotiations were businesslike and open. Both parties demonstrated a will to solve complicated problems pertaining to the situation in Tajikistan in a constructive spirit. They reached agreement on an extension of the Agreement on a temporary cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country until 6 February 1995, and signed the Protocol on the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Agreement.

The parties confirmed their commitment to the spirit of the Tehran Agreement. In this regard, they paid attention to the need to provide additional security guarantees to the civilian population of the Karategin Valley by sending United Nations military observers to that area and by initiating action by international human rights organizations.

In view of the noncompliance with paragraph 4 of the Agreement within the established time-frame, the parties reaffirmed their commitment to release, through the good offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, equal numbers of detainees, prisoners and prisoners of war (27 persons on each side) before midnight on 5 November 1994, in accordance with the lists exchanged at the inter-Tajik consultations in Tehran on 12–17 September 1994. The Agreement will become null and void in the event of the failure by either party to fulfil these obligations before 6 November 1994 (the lists of the persons to be released are contained in annexes 1 and 2). The issue of releasing other supporters of the opposition and prisoners of war of the Republic of Tajikistan will be discussed during subsequent rounds of talks.

The parties reaffirmed their commitment to the settlement of the conflict through political means. In this regard, they agreed, in accordance with the principle of rotation, to hold the next round of talks in early December 1994 in Moscow, where they will continue their efforts to reach national reconciliation and to resolve all the issues listed in the agenda of the talks.

The parties expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of Pakistan for its hospitality, assistance and support in the organization and conduct of the third round of talks in Islamabad.

The parties also expressed their appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to his Special Envoy, Mr. Píriz-Ballón, as well as to the representatives of the observer States, CSCE and the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the talks for their

help and support in conducting the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation.

(Signed) A. DOSTIEV
Head of the delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan

(Signed) A. TURAJONZODAH
Head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition

(Signed) R. PÍRIZ-BALLÓN
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Annex X (Reproduced from document S/1995/105)

LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1995 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

First of all, allow me to convey to you and your Special Envoy to Tajikistan, Mr. Píriz-Ballón, my sincere thanks for the enormous efforts you have made to continue the inter-Tajik talks.

For its part, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan reaffirms its position of principle and is prepared to do everything within its power to ensure the continuation of the talks.

In this context, I consider that the Agreement of 17 September 1994 on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country is the starting-point for the continuation of the talks. I have the honour to state that the Government of Tajikistan, which recognizes the exceptional importance of the Agreement, is prepared to extend it for any length of time and without any additional conditions.

I hope that, through the efforts being undertaken by the United Nations, the Tajik opposition will also take this step with a view to achieving, in the end, peace and prosperity in the land of the Tajiks.

(Signed) *Emomali RAKHMONOV*
President of the Republic of Tajikistan

Annex XI (Reproduced from document S/1995/105)

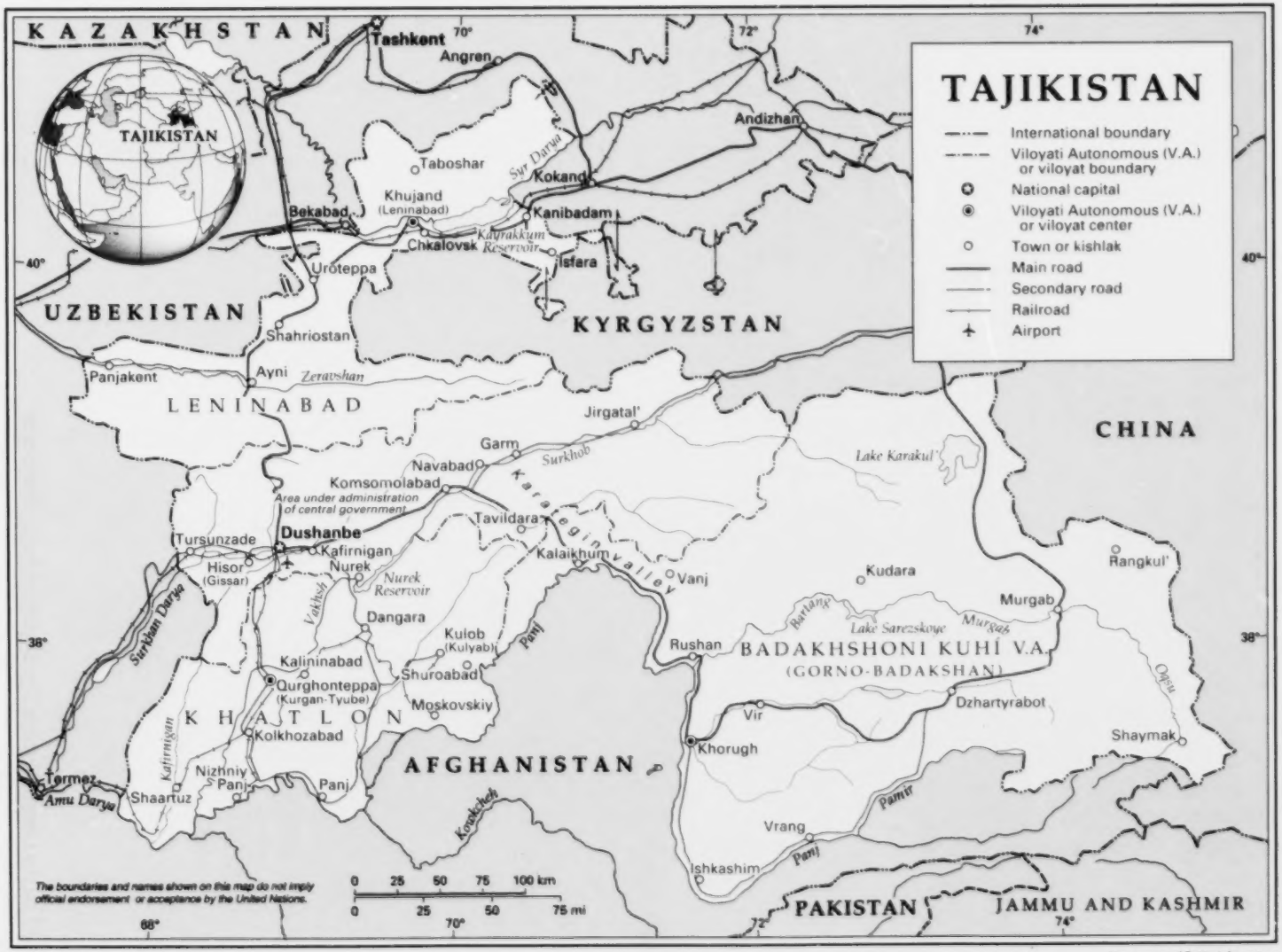
LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1995 FROM THE HEAD OF DELEGATION OF THE TAJIK OPPOSITION, FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE ISLAMIC REVIVAL TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL

On behalf of the Tajik opposition, I take this opportunity to convey to you my sincere thanks for the peacemaking efforts that have been undertaken with a view to settling the Tajik conflict.

On behalf of the leaders of the Tajik opposition, I should like to reaffirm our position of principle that the conflict should be settled by political means, at the negotiating table. In this regard, we declare a one-month extension — until 6 March 1995 — of the Agreement of 17 September 1994 on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country, in connection with the holy month of Ramadan. I hope that this will give us an opportunity to continue the inter-Tajik political talks and make significant progress in resolving the issues on the agenda of the talks, including fundamental political problems. The Tajik people are waiting for this with impatience, and our neighbours and the entire international community have placed their hopes in this.

In view of the constructive and stabilizing role of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT), I should like to express the Tajik opposition's wish and hope that you will recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Mission.

(Signed) A. TURAJONZODA
Head of delegation of the Tajik Opposition
First Deputy Chairman of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan



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